7th March 1955]

Loss due to sale of wheat

* 1129 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of loss sustained by Government in Madras district on account of wrong fixation of price of wheat during 1951:

(*b*) whether the loss has been made good and if so, how; and

(*c*) the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible for this loss?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The loss sustained by the Government is Rs. 74,527–13–4.

" (*b*) Against a total loss of Rs. 74,527–13–4, a sum of rupees 48,809–9–3 was realized by increasing the issue price of imported maida subsequently. The balance sum of rupees 25,718–4–1 could not be realized owing to the decontrol of wheat products.

" (*c*) Suitable action is being taken against the persons responsible for this loss."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" When was this discovery made and what is the suitable action proposed to be taken against the delinquents? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" This relates to what happened in 1951. I have already stated that the Government are examining what action they should take against those who are found to be responsible for this loss."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know whether the loss was due to any slip committed by the officials or was it deliberately created due to partisanship and favouritism shown to merchants? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" This was due to an error in price fixation committed by some subordinate staff in the office of the Collector of Madras."

Private electricity undertakings

* 1130 *Q.*—SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have constituted a Statutory Electricity Board under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 (Central Act LIV of 1948):

(*b*) if so, when and who the members of the Board are;

(*c*) whether there are any private electrical undertakings in the State, which have been incorporated either in England or in India;

(*d*) if so, whether the Government have looked into the profit and loss accounts of those companies; and

[7th March 1955

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of such accounts on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer furnished to question No. 557 on 8th February 1955.

" (*c*) All the private company electrical undertakings now operating in the State are incorporated in India and none is incorporated in England.

" (*d*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*e*) The accounts submitted by each licensee for each year contain long statements. If copies of the accounts of all the licensees for several years are to be placed on the table of the House, it will involve a lot of time and energy which will not be commensurate with the purpose served. If the hon. Member specifies the name of the licensee as also the year in respect of which copies of the accounts are required, the same will be furnished to him."

SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL :—" May I know the reasons which prompted the Government not to constitute the Board when other sister States have found it very desirable? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The other day I mentioned in my reply to a question—perhaps the hon. Member was not present then or he did not listen to the reply—that the reasons were far too many and that I would be making a statement when I move the Demand. Further all other States have not constituted the Board, only two States have constituted it. The question of constituting this Board was taken up at the Planning Commission meeting. Many of the States objected to the constitution of the Board and the Government of India have extended the time by one year."

Remission of land revenue in Marakkanam

8-40 a.m. * 1131 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any remission was given to the ryots of Marakkanam village in A and B Blocks in Tindivanam taluk, South Arcot district, in 1952; and

(*b*) if so, the total amount of remission given in each block?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The village is separated into two blocks 'A' and 'B' for collection purposes only and separate revenue accounts are not maintained for each block. The total amount of remission granted in the village is as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Fasli 1361	3,178	7	0
Fasli 1362	2,232	1	0"